



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Office of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 178 – City Hall
Alexandria, Virginia 22313
<http://alexandriava.gov/Environment>

September 26, 2012

Residents of North Union Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Subject: Environmental Remediation on Zero Block of Oronoco Street Beginning as early as November 1st and ending by May 30th.

Dear Alexandria Resident:

As you may be aware, the City has been actively managing environmental impacts associated with the former manufactured gas plant that once operated on the former City-owned property now occupied by Lee Street Square (corner of North Lee and Oronoco Streets). The plant historically supplied coal-derived natural gas for lighting Alexandria and subsequently left residues in the underlying soil and ground water that have been the ongoing source of oily substances now evident beneath the observation deck at the end Oronoco Street. Although the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality has determined that these substances do not pose a threat to the health of nearby residents, it is nevertheless incumbent on the City to prevent continuing discharges to prevent the spread of oily substances through the subsurface beyond the site boundaries and into the Potomac River.

As a part of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) undertaken by the City to manage the issue, we would like to inform area residents of our plans to implement the next step of site remediation over the coming months. The City will be awarding a contract for the construction of a bio-remediation system at the foot of Oronoco Street by the end of September. Work is expected to begin within a six to eight weeks of the contract being awarded and is expected to take four months to complete. The plan aims to eliminate discharge of impacted material to the Potomac River. The majority of the system will be located underground, with a small (10'x12' footprint) maintenance shed to be located at the far eastern end of the north side of Oronoco Street immediately adjacent to North Robinson Terminal. This is the only above grade, visible sign of the system. The maintenance shed is a precast structure set on a concrete pad that can be easily relocated or incorporated into a future building. The construction activity that has the greatest potential for impacting adjacent residents are two excavations in the middle of Oronoco Street which will require driving piles for a portion of the construction. While open these excavations present the potential for petroleum related odors. Residents should contact the Office of Environmental Quality at the number below if unusual odors are noticed

during construction. Once completed, the system is anticipated to run indefinitely. The next phase of the CAP calls for dredging the outfall to remove the area of impacted sediment. This is scheduled to occur in late 2013 or early 2014.

All of the proposed work will take place within the public right of way between North Union Street and the waterfront, along the zero block of Oronoco Street. During construction activities, parking on either side of the zero block of Oronoco Street will be prohibited. Please see the attached plan for the proposed area of work. Disruption to on-street parking west of North Union Street and on North Union Street is not expected. If on-street parking in these areas is to be impacted during construction, all potentially affected residents and businesses will be notified in advance.

The City appreciates the cooperation of area residents in its effort to maintain the environmental quality of our community. For residents with concerns or special needs that may be impacted by the planned activities, or for additional background information on the site and the City's remedial efforts, please contact Mr. Daniel Imig with the Office of Environmental Quality, Transportation and Environmental Services at (703) 746-4070. Staff would also be willing to meet with individuals or groups to answer any questions regarding the project.

Sincerely,

William Skrabak
Deputy Director
Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
Office of Environmental Quality

Cc: Richard J. Baier – Director, T&ES

North Union Street

North Robinson Terminal

Founders Park

Limits of Disturbance

Oronoco Street

Maintenance Shed

Potomac River



- LEGEND**
- TOPOGRAPHICAL CONTOUR
 - EXISTING DYE MONITORING POINT
 - EXISTING MANHOLE
 - EXISTING DRAINAGE WELL
 - EXISTING GROUNDWATER MONITORING POINT
 - EXISTING SOIL GAS MONITORING POINT
 - FENCE
 - UTILITY POLE
 - WATER MAIN
 - PIPE ALTERNATE
 - ROCKLAND
 - PROPOSED DRAINAGE WELLS
 - ROADS OF POTOMAC
 - PROPOSED GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS



Geosyntec CONSULTING ENGINEERS 10000 LEE ROAD, SUITE 100 FARMERS BRANCH, VA 22031 PHONE: 703.261.4300		PROJECT NO.: 0717-0203 SHEET NO.: 003
TARGET TREATMENT AREAS - PLAN VIEW		
IN-SITU GROUNDWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM		
ALEXANDRIA TOWN GAS - ORONOCO SITE ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA		
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2010 PROJECT NO.: 0717-0203 SHEET NO.: 003	DESIGNED BY: JDC CHECKED BY: JDC IN CHARGE BY: JDC	DATE: SEPTEMBER 2010 PROJECT NO.: 0717-0203 SHEET NO.: 003